

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 6-8 and 11-20 have been allowed. Claims 1-5, 9 and 10 are rejected. Claims 1, 3, and 8-10 have been amended to improve readability and fix antecedent basis. No new matter has been added. Applicant understands that any rejection under new art is to be non-final. Applicant submits that the pending claims 1-5, 9 and 10 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-5, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 1

The Examiner has indicated confusion at the phrase “a scan circuit that allows said dynamic sequential device to be scan controlled and observed” in lines 2-3 of claim 1.

In an attempt to clarify what is being claimed, Applicant has amended claim 1 to reflect that the scan circuit allows the dynamic sequential device to be controlled and observed during a scan.

Therefore, in view of the above amendment, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1 under 35 USC § 112.

Claim 2

The Examiner has indicated confusion at the phrase “said input circuit and said output circuit that allow said dynamic sequential device to be scan controlled and observed” in lines 2-3 of claim 1.

Applicant submits that claim 2 does not recite the language “said input circuit and said output circuit that allow said dynamic sequential device to be scan controlled and observed.”

Claim 2 actually recites the language “said input circuit and said output circuit allow said dynamic sequential device to be scanned and controlled.” The terms “scan controlled and observed” that appear to have caused confusion in claim 1 are not present in claim 2.

Therefore, in view of the above argument, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 2 under 35 USC § 112.

Claim 3

The Examiner has indicated that the term “said scan state” in line 3 lacks antecedent basis. The Examiner has also expressed confusion as to what is being controlled when the dynamic sequential device is in the scan state.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for pointing out the lack of antecedent basis in the claims. Claim 3 has been amended to replace the first instance of “said scan state” with “a scan state.” Applicant believes this provides the necessary antecedent basis.

Applicant further submits that claim 3 clearly sets forth that the scan control circuit controls when the dynamic sequential device is in said scan state.

Therefore, in view of the above amendment and argument, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 3 under 35 USC § 112.

Claims 4 and 5

The examiner has indicated that because claims 4 and 5 depend from claim 1, they have the same problems of indefiniteness.

Applicant believes that the amendment to claim 1 has cleared up any confusion regarding the indefiniteness of claim 1 and dependent claims 4 and 5.

Therefore, in view of the amendment to claim 1, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 4 and 5 under 35 USC § 112.

Claim 9

The Examiner has indicated that the term “said data” in line 2 lacks antecedent basis.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for pointing out the lack of antecedent basis in claim 9. Claim 9 has been amended to add the term “value” after the term “data.” Claim 8 has been amended to depend from claim 7. As claim 9 depends from claim 8, antecedent basis for the term “said data value” is now provided by claim 7.

Therefore, in view of the above amendments, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 9 under 35 USC § 112.

Claim 10

The Examiner has indicated that the term “said test circuit” lacks antecedent basis or the use of the term “said test circuit” is inconsistent.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for pointing out the lack of antecedent basis in claim 10 as well as the inconsistent use of the term “said test circuit.” Claim 10 has been amended to replace the term “test” with the term “scan.” There is antecedent basis for the term “said scan circuit” provided by claim 6, from which claim 10 depends.

Therefore, in view of the above amendment, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 10 under 35 USC § 112.

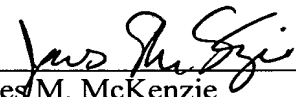
CONCLUSION

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this statement. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. SMQ-046US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 2, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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